Hoshikuzuu SCANS

Focus 01

Nishi Noriko

SCANNER
Hoshi
TRANSLATOR
Hoshi

CLEANER
Hoshi
TYPESETTER
Shay

PROOFREADER
Mershyk
QUALITY CHECKER
Hoshi

FOCUS
フォーカス
西のり子
FOCUS
by Noriko Nishi
fleur comics

CONTENTS

#1 006

#2 047

#3 085

#4 127

AFTERWORD 160

EXTRA
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR 181

フォーカス

西のり子

FOCUS

by Noriko Nishi

#1
CLI
CK
YOU'RE QUITE THE BEAUTY.
KISS KISS
AM

I THOUGHT OF THIS WHEN I WAS COMING HERE,
Cafe
& Trinkets
THIS ISLAND SURE HAS A LOT OF CATS.
I SEE MORE CATS THAN I DO PEOPLE
Thanks.
Go down from that way
The ocean?
Whoops.
Someone's already here.

slow
I WONDER WHAT HE'S TAKING
IS HE A TOURIST? OR A LOCAL?

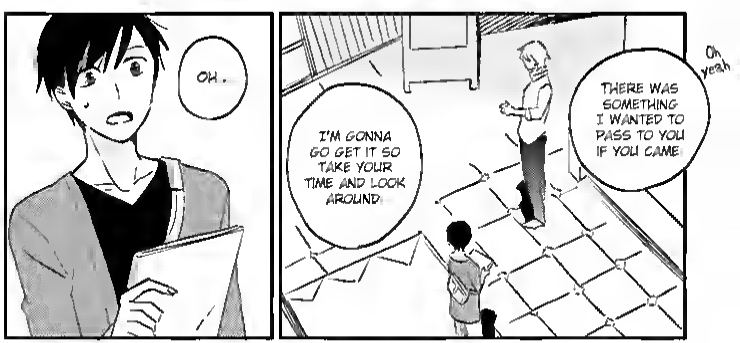
Click
AH
!
SURPRISED
SORRY
I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL SIDE VIEW, SO I JUST...
...?
!
AH, WELL, IT'S TRUE, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
YOU SAY?

I'M HOLDING AN EXHIBIT AT THE GALLERY ON THIS ISLAND. I'M A PHOTOGRAPHER.
IN OTHER WORDS,
I MEANT BEAUTIFUL FROM AN AESTHETIC POINT OF VIEW...
HERE
?
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU UNCOMFORTABLE...
NO... UM.
!
THAT'S NOT...
BUT, WELL,
I AM GAY.
SO IT PROBABLY STILL SOUNDS LIKE AN EXCUSE...
WELL THEN...
IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT, COME SEE IT!
ABOUT THE EXHIBIT
OH, BUT,

...
YUICHI H
SHITOMI
ALLERY
Hirami Yuichi (22)
PROFILE
Photo Se
Silver
Xth Exhibit
IPS Exhibit
Last year, Wa
Europe
...
SO HE'S YOUNGER THAN ME...
HIRAMI YUICHI
PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT
YUSI
GALL

YOU CAME!
OH.
CREAK
YOSHITOMI

THANK YOU! I'M SO HAPPY!
Here's a pamphlet.
NO, LIM...


OH.
I'M GONNA GO GET IT SO TAKE YOUR TIME AND LOOK AROUND.
THERE WAS SOMETHING I WANTED TO PASS TO YOU IF YOU CAME.
Oh, yeah

tap
JUN-KUN?

SASAKI-SAN'S GRANDMOTHER.
Hello
DID YOU COME TO SEE THE PHOTO-GRAPHS?
WELL I MET A YOUNG MAN ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS YESTERDAY.
SO THIS WAS WHERE HE WAS GOING
And I had some spare time so I came.
...
You're free...?
JUN-KUN, ARE YOU WORKING?
TAF NLY
RUNNING A PHOTO STUDIO MUST BE HARD WORK, RIGHT?
!
YOU
ARE A PRO?

NOT REALLY A PRO... IT'S JUST WORK
THAT'S WHAT A PRO MEANS.
Oh, how was it, granny?
I don't really understand it, but it's amazing.
...
HOW IS IT?
IS THERE ANYTHING THAT CATCHES YOUR EYE?
Thanks
Goodbye
LET'S SEE
YOU TAKE THESE KINDS OF PHOTOS?
?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
Ah,
WHEN I LOOK AT THEM,
I FEEL CALM
he smiled.
...

how do you say, it draws me in
THAT'S RIGHT.
His fascination...
THIS IS THE PHOTO I TOOK OF YOU YESTERDAY.
!
JUMP
HIRAMI-SAN?
HUH?
OH
Huh?
IS THIS OKAY?
YEAH, TAKE IT IF YOU WANT.
THANK YOU.
YESTER-DAY,
I WASN'T MADE UN-COMFORT-ABLE OR ANYTHING
!
ACTU-ALLY,
I CAME TO APOLOGIZE TODAY.
HEY,
DOES THAT MEAN THAT WE'VE MADE UP?
HUH?
THEN,
I'VE GOT A LITTLE REQUEST FOR YOU.
UM.

"TAKE ME TO..."
CLOSED
YOSHITOMI GALLERY
"THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SCENE ON THIS ISLAND!"
...YES?
Got his email.
DON'T MAKE ME SOUND SO BAD,
YOSHITO-MI-SAN
I JUST WANT TO MAKE UP WITH HIM
YOU..
NO ONE TRIES TO PICK UP GUYS AT AN EXHIBIT!
thunk
...
IF.
sigh
YOU WEREN'T GAY,
I'D BELIEVE THOSE WORDS...
HEY!
THAT'S LIKE SAYING I HAVE NO INTEGRITY!
AND JUN-KUN IS JUST YOUR TYPE.
I'M SORRY THAT HE'S EXTRE-MELY MY TYPE!

IS THAT A JOKE?
BE SERIOUS!
DON'T DO ANYTHING RASH BE SUBTLE
WELL, ALL JOKES ASIDE
...
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT SILENCE?
WOW
EVEN IN THIS SITUATION
YOU KNOW,
...
SO WHY AM I GETTING A WARNING THIS TIME?
WELL, I ALWAYS FALL EASILY
A MYSTERY GUY LIKE ME CAN'T INTRUDE?
SO,
BUT EVERYONE'S LIKE FAMILY!
IT'S A SMALL ISLAND

YOU...
WELL,
I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND AND BE CAREFUL.
ASAHINA PHOTO STUDIO
THERE IT IS
ASAHINA PHOTO STUDIO
OH
SO HOT.
Jingle
HELLO.

OH, IT'S FINE.
SINCE I CAME EARLY.
SORRY.
I'M STILL GETTING READY...
OH.
SO WHILE I'M WAITING,
CAN I SEE
SOME OF YOUR PHOTOS?
I DON'T MIND
THEY'RE DISPLAYED OVER IN THAT ROOM.
FEEL FREE TO LOOK AROUND

So I assumed there'd be some scenic photos.
When I first met him, he was taking a picture of the sea.
THEY'RE ALL WELL-DONE PORTRAITS
?
WELL, IT IS A PHOTO STUDIO
FLAP
OH.
SO THERE ARE SUCH PICTURES.

FOR THE WAIT.
SORRY

HIRAMI-SAN?
OH,
SORRY WAS I NOT SUPPOSED TO SEE THESE?
UM,
THAT'S...
REALLY?
I THINK THEY'RE AMAZING
...NO.
BUT
THOSE WERE DONE AS A HOBBY
SO THERE ARE A LOT OF FLAWS

SO YOU WERE SHOOTING THE SCENERY HERE?
YES
WHY DON'T I SHOW YOU LATER?
SURE!
OH
YEAH.
HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF PUTTING THESE UP FOR EXHIBITS?
EXHIBITS?
IF YOU'D LIKE—
—SORRY
THERE'S AN EXHIBIT THAT FEATURES NORMAL PEOPLE AND
IT SEEMS THIS THEME WOULD BE PERFECT
I'M NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN THAT

I SEE...
THAT'S UNFORTU-NATE
SINCE YOU'VE GOT THE SKILLS
I'M SATISFIED
WITH JUST PHOTOGRAPHING WHAT I LIKE
No,
I'm not trying to flatter you!
...
YOU WON'T GET ANYTHING OUT OF PRAISING ME.
Though, I've got ulterior motives.
Thanks
No problem
WELL,
IT'S TRUE.
I was being serious!

But,
I JUST
WANT TO
see more of this person's photos.
That's what I thought.

JUST A BIT FURTHER.
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
Sorta
!

WOW!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL VIEW!
THAT'S WHY THERE ARE A TON OF CATS.
YEAH—
AND IT'S SO COOL!
AM I RIGHT?
OH

IT'S A BOAT.
LOOKS LIKE A SPEEDBOAT.
THE WAVES WASH OVER THE COVE,
SO THE RIPTIDES ARE BEAUTIFUL...
ESPECIALLY DURING SUNDOWN
Cli
CK

STAY LIKE THAT
!
I CAN'T ACT NATURAL WHEN THERE'S A CAMERA FACING ME
"HEY JUN"
"YOU DON'T NEED TO LOOK OVER HERE."
"BUT DAD, I MIND IT!"
...

rustle
I'M SURE
YOUR PARENTS TOOK A LOT OF PICTURES
THAT'S BECAUSE I OWN A PHOTO STUDIO.
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE USED TO THE CAMERA.
BUT
I
GUESS SO.
rumble
plip
HUH?
plip

po
urs
WOAH,
IT'S RAINING!
Pours
I THOUGHT IT DIDN'T RAIN MUCH NEAR THE INLAND SEA?!
ARE YOU SURE IT'S NOT JUST YOU THAT BROUGHT THE RAIN WITH YOU?
WHAT?!
Pours
Pours
THERE'S AN ALCOVE NEARBY.
LET'S TAKE SHELTER THERE!
OKAY!

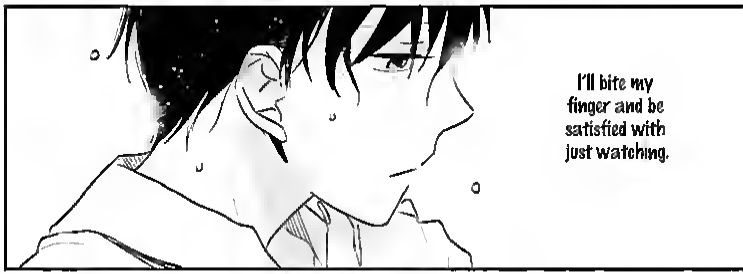
IS
YOUR CAMERA OKAY?
YEAH,
IT'S FINE.
THANK GOODNESS
...WELL,
DRENCHED
MY CAMERA IS FINE.
BUT WE'RE COMPLETELY SOAKED
HAHA...
ACHOO!

wring
COLD?
A BIT.
BUT IT'S SUMMER, SO IT'S ALRIGHT
POURS
pours
...

glance
That's why

DON'T DO ANYTHING RASH! BE SUBTLE!
GASP

EVEN I KNOW THIS IS A BAD HABIT OF MINE
sigh


I'll bite my finger and be satisfied with just watching.

I won't intentionally reveal anything.

pours
UM,
A BUG LANDED ON YOU.
I thought I'd shoo it away.
Huh?
THANK YOU.
Yeah.
WHAT'S WRONG?
...NGH.
UH,
BUG.
Geez.
STRAIGHT PEOPLE CAN'T SENSE GAY INTENTIONS
But I like that
Yeah.
It's really pouring
drip
drip
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'LL BE LETTING UP ANYTIME SOON
LET'S SIT AND WAIT.
YEAH.
drip

BY THE WAY,
HIRAMI-SAN,
!
YOU USED TO BE A MODEL, RIGHT?
WHO DID YOU HEAR THAT FROM?
FROM YOSHITOMI-SAN.
HE SAID YOU WERE POPULAR BUT YOU QUIT...

DID HE SAY ANYTHING ELSE?
...
That old man...

JUST THAT HE MET YOU IN TOKYO
...
?
NO.

I SEE.

BECAUSE
YOU'RE SO COOL.
WHY?
WHY DID YOU GO FROM BEING IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA TO BEING BEHIND IT?
I'M SURE
THE PEOPLE TAKING THE PICTURES WERE ENJOYING IT TOO.
...
IT WAS FUN, INDEED
YOU THINK I'M COOL?
I told him I liked him
Until

EVEN THOUGH I'M GAY?
?
YES
...
THANKS.
REGARDING YOU, I—
THEN,
ASAHINA-SAN?
VROOOOM

WHAT IS IT NOW?
screech
slump
MR. MAILMAN
GLAD I CAUGHT YOU!
THE USUAL REGISTERED MAIL
WHEN I WENT TO YOUR PLACE, YOU WERE OUT.
SORRY.
SAME HERE SORRY FOR BEING OUT.
Please sign here.

IT WAS RAINING SO HARD JUST A WHILE AGO
HE MUST HAVE IT TOUGH TOO.
WELL THEN
VROOM
...
...
ASAHINA-SAN?
I'M SORRY,
WE'LL HAVE TO END FOR TODAY

WAIT A MINUTE!
Why so sudden?
IF WE GO DOWN THE HILL ON THE LEFT,
WE'LL GET TO THE STREET THE GALLERY'S ON
HUH?
What?
THEN I'LL DO THAT TOO...
I'M SORRY
I'VE GOT SOME-WHERE I HAVE TO GO TO
IF YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THE SHOP, I'LL GO WITH YOU.
...
EXCUSE ME
I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU SOME OTHER DAY

Well,
looks like he gave me a chance to redeem myself.
AWWW.
HE RAN OFF-
...
I'll consider today a loss.
The rain has stopped.
...

chirp
Looking at his appearance from the back,
...
I WONDER WHY
And the
chirp
sweltering heat of summer is back.
chirp
chirp
chirp
He looks cold.
...HAH.
chirp
chirp

sniff
...NGH.
DID I CATCH A COLD?
Achoooo!!
bzzz